The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

23 September 1977

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As far as General Eaker's critical article of last June, I would have to submit that he has missed the point of the reorganization of the intelligence community entirely; what has occurred is a strengthening of my authority over the collection agencies of the intelligence community. There has been no tampering with or effort to subordinate the analytic and estimating elements. None of us in the process of working on this reorganization have advocated doing anything that would suppress differing views and estimates. The DIA and the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research remain totally independent of the CIA's analytic element. Beyond that, I have taken positive steps to encourage and make more forceful the expression of minority views in our estimating process. In short, we do need more coordination and efficiency with our very expensive collection systems, but we do not want or need any suppression of the diverse analytic organizations.

Hunter Harris

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General Eaker wrote another article just recently which was also very critical, but which also missed the mark, in my view. I do not think he understands that the Director of Central Intelligence never has had and does not now have any control over "tactical" intelligence resources. The independence of the Army, Navy and Air Force tactical intelligence is sacrosanct to all of us; in fact, one of my major objectives in this job is to ensure that the national intelligence collection systems properly and expeditiously feed appropriate information into the Service tactical systems. Some of our new technical collection systems have great potential for the tactical commander as well as for the national decision-makers. We simply must find ways to share this information on an instantaneous basis. Much has been done and is being done, but I still think there is a lot of ground to be plowed here.

Again, my many thanks for your thoughtful note. It was so nice to hear from you again. All the very best.

Yours,

STANSFIELD TURNER

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